

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 INRE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 EB-08 CA-01 SCS-06 H-01 DLOS-09

CG-00 DOTE-00 SS-15 TRSE-00 COME-00 ICAE-00 PA-01

NSCE-00 SSO-00 DODE-00 /084 W

-----020155 051207Z /46

O 051130Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8132

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL BELEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 5215

MEXICO FOR RFA

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS EFIS CPRS BR

SUBJECT: DIPLOMATIC NOTE RE JUNE 23 SHRIMP BOAT SEIZURES

REF: STATE 167481

1. FOLLOWING IS PROPOSED DIPLOMATIC NOTE FOR DEPARTMENT CLEARANCE:

QUOTE THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATE OF AMERICA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE MINISTRY'S DIPLOMATIC NOTE NUMBER DPB/53/245(B46) (B13) OF JUNE 27, 1978, AND (NOTE ON SEVEN SEAS SENT BUT STILL NOT RECEIVED AT COB JULY 3) IN WHICH THE MINISTRY INFORMED THE EMBASSY OF THE JUNE 23 SEIZURE OF THE AMERICAN FLAG VESSELS CAYENNE LAURA AND ANITA KAY, BOTH IN POSITION 0430 N AND 05057 W, AT 0800 HOURS AND SEVEN SEAS, IN POSITION 0442 N AND 05110 W, AT 0955 HOURS.

THE EMBASSY WISHES TO INFORM THE MINISTRY OF THE CREWS' REPORTS THAT THE THREE VESSELS WERE FISHING TOGETHER IN FRENCH WATERS
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NEAR THE VICINITY OF LE GRAND CONNETABLE ROCK WHEN APPREHENDED. UPON RECEIVING A RADIO REPORT FROM THE SEVEN SEAS OF THE SEIZURE OF THE THREE BOATS, THE FLEET MANAGER FOR SAHLMAN SEAFOODS AND THE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER OF PEDIG PACKING PLANT CHARTERED A PLANE FROM GUYANA AIR TRANSPORT COMPANY TO OBSERVE THE SITUATION. IN ADDITION TO THE DETAILED REPORT PREPARED BY THE PILOT OF THE PLANE,

THE ABOVE MENTIONED CAYENNE REPRESENTATIVES OF SAHLMAN AND PEDIG WHO WERE ABOARD THE PLANE STATE THAT THEY SAW THE BRAZILIAN PATROL VESSEL, AT POSITION 0453 N BY 05135 W AT APPROXIMATELY 1145 HOURS LOCAL TIME, ESCORTING THE ANITA KAY, CAYENNE LAURA, AND SEVEN SEAS, AS WELL AS A BOAT OF ANOTHER NATIONALITY.

THE EMBASSY REQUESTS THE MINISTRY TO REVIEW THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO IT REGARDING THE SEIZURE OF THE THREE AMERICAN VESSELS ON JUNE 23, IN VIEW OF THE INFORMATION IN THE PARAGRAPH ABOVE, AND TO CONSIDER THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF THE AMERICAN VESSELS AND THEIR CONTENTS.

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

2. EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER CONFIRM THAT COORDINATES GIVEN FROM CAYENNE SOURCES CLEARLY WOULD HAVE PLACED US VESSELS IN FRENCH GUIANA WATERS. FRANCH EMBASSY HAS TOLD US THAT THERE WERE THREE POSSIBLE DEMARCATION LINES AND THAT AREA IN BAY OF OYAPOCK HAS NOT BEEN AGREED TO BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF FRANCE AND BRAZIL.
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